GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:582
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2006
SPECIAL CATEGORY STATUS TO RAJASTHAN UNDER APDRP
Bhargav Shri Girdhari Lal

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has accorded the special category status to some backward States to provide grants and loan to them under the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria fixed for granting the special category status to such States;

(d) whether the Government proposes to accord special category status to Rajasthan which is a bordering, drought and flood affected State; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Eleven States viz. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttaranchal have been included under Special Category States for getting assistance under Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP).

(c) : National Development Council (NDC) accords special status to the States as per the following guidelines:

Strategic location on the border with neighbouring countries;

Hilly and difficult terrains;

Overall economic and infrastructural backwardness;

Low population density and/or sizeable share of tribal population; and

Limited and weak resource base compared to development needs.

(d) : There is no proposal in Ministry of Power to accord special status to Rajasthan.

(e) : The funding pattern for release of funds to the Special Category States under APDRP has been adopted as per the criteria laid down by NDC.